	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/842,495	SHANTHAVEERAIAH ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Cam Y T. Truong	2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *10/18/2006*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-15,23-30,32-59,67 and 68*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date *1/11/02 , 11/15/04, 3/7/05, 11/23/05*

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit *12/27/05* of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

Cam Y Truong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2162

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-15, 23-30, 32-59 and 67-68 are pending in this Office Action.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

      Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Attorney Robert C. Kowert on 11/30/2006.

In the claims:

      Please replace claims 1, 4, 9, 23, 33, 43, 47, 52 and 67 with amended claims 1,

4, 9, 23, 33, 43, 47, 52 and 67.

1.   (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for discovering fabric

        devices, comprising:

receiving a list from a fabric driver of fabric devices available to a host system,

        wherein the fabric driver is part of an operating system for the host

        system;

receiving a request to select a subset of the fabric devices from the list;

requesting the fabric driver to create an operating system device node in the host

        system for each of the fabric devices in the subset not already online,

        wherein each operating system device node provides a mechanism for

        accessing a corresponding one of the subset of fabric devices through the

        operating system executing on the host system; and

creating the operating system device node in the host system for each of the fabric

devices in the subset not already online, and wherein said creating the operating

system device node comprising writing the operating system device node into a

memory.

4.   (Currently amended)   A method for discovering fabric devices, comprising:

        providing a list of fabric devices available to a host system;

receiving a request to create operating system device nodes in the host system for

        each fabric device in a selected subset of the fabric devices available to the

        host system; and

creating an operating system device node in the host system for each of the fabric

devices in the selected subset not already online, wherein each operating

system device node provides a mechanism for accessing a corresponding

one of the subset of fabric devices through an operating system executing

on the host System, and wherein said creating the operating system device

node comprising writing the operating system device node into a memory.

9.   (Currently amended) A method for discovering devices attached to a

storage network, comprising:

receiving a request to identify devices attached to the storage network which are

available to a host system;

requesting the storage network to identify devices attached to the storage

network which are available to the host system;

receiving a list of the identified devices;

receiving a request to on-line a subset of the identified devices; and

creating an operating system device node within the host system for each of the

identified devices in the subset that is not already online, wherein each

operating system device node provides a mechanism for accessing a

corresponding one of the subset of the identified devices through an

operating system executing on the host system and wherein said creating the

operating system device node comprising writing the operating system device

node into a memory.

23.   (Currently amended) A host system, comprising:

one or more adapter ports for connecting to a fabric;

a tangible computer readable storage medium encoded with program instructions

computer-executable to implement:

a fabric driver configured to interface the host system to the fabric, wherein the

fabric driver is part of an operating system for the host system;

an application configured to request the fabric driver to provide a list of fabric

devices attached to the fabric that are visible to the host system through

one of said adapter ports;

wherein the fabric driver is further configured to provide the list of fabric devices

to the application in response to the request from the application;

wherein the application is further configured to indicate to the fabric driver a

selected subset of the fabric devices from the list to be brought online for

access from the host system; and

wherein the fabric driver is further configured to online the selected subset of

fabric devices so that the selected subset of fabric devices are accessible

from the host system, wherein the fabric driver is further configured to

create operating system device nodes within the host system for each

device of the selected subset, wherein each operating system device node

provides a mechanism for accessing a corresponding one of the subset of

fabric devices through the operating system executing on the host system.

33. (Currently amended) The host system as recited in claim 32, wherein said discovery

mechanism is configured to execute in response to a reboot of the host system, and

wherein said application is configured to execute on the host system subsequent to

said reboot and discovery process.

43. (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium having stored

thereon data representing sequences of instructions, wherein the sequences of

instructions are executable by one or more processors to implement:

receiving a list from a fabric driver of fabric devices available to a host system,

wherein the fabric driver is part of an operating system for the host

system;

receiving a request to select a subset of the fabric devices from the list;

requesting the fabric driver to create an operating system device node in the host

system for each of the fabric devices in the subset not already online,

wherein each operating system device node provides a mechanism for accessing

a corresponding one of the subset of fabric devices through the operating system

executing on the host system; and

creating the operating system device node in the host system for each of the

fabric devices in the subset not already online, and wherein said creating the operating

system device node comprising writing the operating system device node into a

memory.

47.   (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium having

stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions, wherein the sequences of

instructions are executable by one or more processors to implement:

   providing a list of fabric devices available to a host system;

   receiving a request to create operating system device node in the host system for

       each fabric device in a selected subset of the fabric devices available to the

       host system; and

   creating an operating system device node in the host system for each of the fabric

devices in the selected subset not already online, wherein each operating system

device node provides a mechanism for accessing a corresponding one of the

subset of fabric devices through an operating system executing on the host system,

and wherein said creating the operating system device node comprising writing the

operating system device node into a memory.

52. (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium having stored

   thereon data representing sequences of instructions, wherein the sequences of

instructions are executable by one or more processors to implement:

   receiving a request to identify devices attached to storage network which are

       available to a host system;

   requesting the storage network to identify devices attached to the storage network

       which are available to the host system;

   receiving a list of the identified devices;

receiving a request to on-line a subset of the identified devices; and

creating an operating system device node within the host system for each of the

identified devices in the subset that is not already online, wherein each operating

system device node provides a mechanism for accessing a corresponding one

of the subset of the identified devices through an operating system executing on

the host system; and

wherein said creating the operating system device node comprising writing the

operating system device node into a memory.

67. (Currently amended) A method for discovering fabric devices, comprising:

viewing a list of fabric devices available to a host system;

selecting a subset of the fabric devices from the list; and requesting that each of

the fabric devices in the subset be brought online if not already online for use from

the host system, wherein each fabric device that is online has a corresponding

operating system device node that provides a mechanism for accessing a

corresponding one of the subset of the identified devices through an operating

system executing on the host system;

creating an operating system device node in the host system for each of the

fabric devices in the subset not already online, and wherein said creating the operating

system device node comprising writing the operating system device node into a

memory; and

wherein said viewing, selecting and requesting are performed via a computer

system user interface.

Allowable Subject Matter

3.   Claims 1-15, 23-30, 32-59 and 67-68 are allowed.

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest

the combination of steps as recited in independent claim 1 "requesting the fabric driver

to create an operating system device node in the host system for each of the fabric

devices in the subset not already online, wherein each operating system device

node provides a mechanism for accessing a corresponding one of the subset of

fabric devices through the operating system executing on the host system; and

creating the operating system device node in the host system for each of the fabric

devices in the subset not already online, and wherein said creating the operating

system device node comprising writing the operating system device node into a

memory";

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest

the combination of steps as recited in independent claim 4, wherein "creating an

operating system device node in the host system for each of the fabric devices in the

selected subset not already online, wherein each operating system device node

provides a mechanism for accessing a corresponding one of the subset of fabric

devices through an operating system executing on the host System; and wherein

said creating the operating system device node comprising writing the operating system

device node into a memory";

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest

the combination of steps as recited in independent claim 9, wherein "creating an

operating system device node within the host system for each of the identified devices

in the subset that is not already online, wherein each operating system device node

provides a mechanism for accessing a corresponding one of the subset of the

identified devices through an operating system executing on the host system and

wherein said creating the operating system device node comprising writing the

operating system device node into a memory";

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest

the combination of steps as recited in independent claim 23 "wherein the application is

further configured to indicate to the fabric driver a selected subset of the fabric devices

from the list to be brought online for access from the host system; and wherein the

fabric driver is further configured to online the selected subset of fabric devices so that

the selected subset of fabric devices are accessible from the host system, wherein

the fabric driver is further configured to create operating system device nodes

within the host system for each device of the selected subset, wherein each

operating system device node provides a mechanism for accessing a

corresponding one of the subset of fabric devices through the operating system

executing on the host system;

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest

the combination of steps as recited in independent claim 43, wherein requesting the

fabric driver to create an operating system device node in the host system for each of

the fabric devices in the subset not already online, wherein each operating system

device node provides a mechanism for accessing a corresponding one of the

subset of fabric devices through the operating system executing on the host system;

and creating the operating system device node in the host system for each of the fabric

devices in the subset not already online, and wherein said creating the operating

system device node comprising writing the operating system device node into a

memory;

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest

the combination of steps as recited in independent claim 47, wherein creating an

operating system device node in the host system for each of the fabric devices in the

selected subset not already online, wherein each operating system device node

provides a mechanism for accessing a corresponding one of the subset of fabric

devices through an operating system executing on the host system, and wherein said

creating the operating system device node comprising writing the operating system

device node into a memory;

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest

the combination of steps as recited in independent claim 52, wherein creating a

operating system device node within the host system for each of the identified devices

in the subset that is not already online, wherein each operating system device

node provides a mechanism for accessing a corresponding one of the subset of

the identified devices through an operating system executing on the host system;

and wherein said creating the operating system device node comprising writing the

operating system device node into a memory; and

The prior art of record, alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest

the combination of steps as recited in independent claim 67, wherein requesting that

each of the fabric devices in the subset be brought online if not already online for use

from the host system, wherein each fabric device that is online has a

corresponding operating system device node that provides a mechanism for

accessing a corresponding one of the subset of the identified devices through an

operating system executing on the host system; creating the operating system

device node in the host system for each of the fabric devices in the subset not already

online, and wherein said creating the operating system device node comprising writing

the operating system device node into a memory.

Contact Information

4.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Cam Y T. Truong whose telephone number is (571)

272-4042. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Firday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cam Y T Truong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2162
12/2/2006